

# CEAC Newsletter

## November 2011

### **Presidential Message** by Julie Bueren

The year is coming to an end and as I get ready to pass the baton, I want to thank you for allowing me to serve as your President in 2011. I have been active in CEAC for a number of years, but serving as an officer the last three years and President this year has really allowed me to become more involved and to reach out to all of the membership: throughout the year at our conferences, at the regional meetings and in representing CEAC at retirement functions. I continue to be impressed by the quality of our organization. That quality comes from the people: the membership, the CLODS, the staff, the Affiliates and yes, the CHICS. CEAC is a synergistic group with the energy and commitment to make a difference. As President, I was able to see this first hand in the willingness of our members to serve as policy committee chairs and vice chairs, to represent CEAC on outside committees, to engage on specific issues and to act as a resource to the legislative staff at CSAC. It is also evident in the activity of the regions. The regional meetings provide an excellent forum to share information and to learn from each other as we face many common challenges in county engineering.

This was another busy year for CEAC. The second update of the Local Streets and Roads Needs Assessment was released in February. Once again, the results of the Report were used to demonstrate the ongoing needs during state budget discussions and helped in stop significant cuts to transportation funding for cities and counties. In fact, the results of the 2010 Update were so well received, that they were incorporated into the CTC's Statewide Transportation System Needs Assessment (near completion).

CEAC members provided support to CSAC staff on the budget issues as well as on other important legislative activity this year. The Governor signed two notable pieces of legislation of interest to CEAC this year - AB147 and AB720. AB147 was a CSAC sponsored bill that expanded existing eligible uses for transportation mitigation impact fees charged under the Subdivision

CALIFORNIA  
*Counties*



## Presidential Message (Cont.)

Map Act to include funding for transit, bicycle, and pedestrian facilities. Kiana took the lead for CSAC on this bill and it was her first signed into law. Good job Kiana! AB720 was a reworked AB1409 that proposed to change the Public Contract Code and limit how much work counties can do with their own forces. There were a number of CEAC members who worked with CSAC staff to reach a workable compromise with the bill's sponsors and author. I want to particularly recognize Howard Dashiell, Transportation Director and County Engineer from Mendocino County for his efforts with AB720. Howard was engaged from the beginning working tirelessly on CEAC's behalf. He was a resource to DeAnn and Kiana, providing analysis as the bill took on different forms through the amendment process and he was instrumental in reaching a compromise that works for both the counties and the private sector sponsors. Howard is continuing to work on the implementation of the legislation and he has made himself available to help educate the rest of us on the issues. He has made reports at the CEAC Transportation Policy Committee meetings and at the Bedroll Conference. He even made the long drive down to the San Joaquin Regional meeting and provided information on the specific impacts of the legislation to each of the counties in the region. Thank you Howard!

CEAC's organizational structure is built in part on its committees. Our Policy Committees are focused on particular areas of interest to county engineering and public works. The Oversight Committee deals with the overall operations of CEAC and develops recommendations on the annual work program, identifies issues of importance to CEAC for referral to the appropriate policy committee. This year Oversight continued the efforts of Vision 2012 that included discussions how to broaden involvement in the organization, use of social media as a tool for communication and outreach to new members. They also worked on AB720 and considered and approved a mechanism to finance local streets and roads updates. The Oversight Committee has identified climate change as a new policy area for CEAC that spans most of our existing policy committees. The Scholarship Committee is an important link between CEAC and our future by providing scholarships to Civil Engineering and Surveying students. Not only are we providing some financial support to these students, we are introducing them to county engineering as a rewarding career path. The Scholarship Committee also looks into the organization as we recognize outstanding accomplishments in selecting the Surveyor of the Year and the Engineer of the Year. CEAC is an organization that works hard, but we also enjoy fellowship and our Fellowship Committee does an incredible job of providing an atmosphere conducive to networking and friendship.

As County Engineers we deal with a broad range of issues. This is demonstrated by the work of our Policy Committees. This year, the Flood Control Committee covered the levee vegetation policy, Clean Water Act Section 404 Streamlining, Fish and Game Mitigation and Endowment Requirements and a flood control statewide needs assessment. Land Use discussed SB375, environmental processing, impact fees and are they are looking at training for counties in processing development such as plan checking. Solid Waste continued discussions this year on illegal dumping, a mandatory commercial recycling ordinance, storm water industrial permit and the impacts of Proposition 26. The Surveyor Committee discussed a range of topics and issues including unrecorded maps and documents used for reference, the LAFCO process, the impacts of LightSquared on GPS and changes in the State Business and Professions Code (Section 8764). The Transportation Committee continues to focus on the Local Streets and Roads Needs Assessment, project delivery and Federal reauthorization. The Policy Committees help to focus our efforts in the specific areas of interest and the committee chairs and vice chairs do a terrific job of setting agendas that are relevant and interesting to the membership.

I have a lot of people to thank for the support I have had this past year. I will start with the CLODS for giving me the opportunity. Thinking back to fall of 2008 when Mike Walford came and asked me to be an officer of CEAC, I was surprised and honored and also touched that the Public Works Director who hired me at Contra Costa County was the one to extend the offer on behalf of the CLODS. I want to thank the entire membership with a shout out to the CEAC Officers who have been great to work with, the Committee Chairs and the Re-

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## Presidential Message (Cont.)

gional Directors who carry on the business of CEAC beyond our conferences. I want to also thank our Affiliates who do so much for the organization with their sponsorship and participation.

We could not do all we do in CEAC without the relationship we have with CSAC. The legislative team of DeAnn Baker, Karen Keene, Kiana Buss and Cara Martinson works hard on our behalf every day. They support and staff our policy committees as well as our outside committees. They are strong and effective advocates and keep us informed on important budget and legislative issues at the state and national level. The breadth of the issues they work on and the expertise and knowledge they have developed in our policy areas is truly impressive. I want to recognize and thank Patti Hughes for the work she does. Patti makes it look easy, but it takes a lot of hard work to put together a successful conference and Patti is a master. And Merrin Gerety! I cannot say enough about how great she is for CEAC and what a tremendous job of support she has provided me during my term as President. I could not have done this without her. Thank you Merrin!

This is a special organization, one of purpose and camaraderie. I look forward to continued involvement in CEAC, in 2012 as Past-President and in the years to come.

*Julie,*

*Thank you for your dedication and leadership  
as our Association President.*

*You Done Good!*

## Member Spotlight

### RECENT COUNTY APPOINTMENTS

**Mohammed Nuru**

Public Works Director  
San Francisco City and County

**Paul Greenway**

Acting Director of Public Works  
Monterey County

**Peter Rei**

Director of Public Works  
Mariposa County  
(CEAC President 2009)

**Clay Castleberry**

Acting County Engineer/Road Commissioner  
Colusa County  
(CEAC President 1976, Bird Name: Albatross, and continuing to live up to his nickname, the Circuit Rider)

### RECENT CEAC APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE COMMITTEES

**City-County-State-Federal Cooperative Committee:**

**Rick Tippett**, Trinity County,  
Rural Representative.

**California Traffic Control Devices Committee:**

**Rick Marshall**, Napa County,  
Northern California Representative.

**Bob Bronkall**, Humboldt County,  
Northern California - alternate representative.

**Highway Bridge Program (HBP), Caltrans Advisory Committee:**

**Chris Sneddon**, Santa Barbara County,  
Southern California - alternate representative.

## CEAC Scholarships

This was a banner year for applications in the CEAC Scholarship program. There were a total of sixteen applications submitted by college and university student from around the State.

There were twelve applicants for the Civil Engineering Scholarship and four for the Land Surveying Scholarship. The number of applications were double the numbers from the prior two years.

The successful applicants who will each be awarded a \$2,000 scholarship.

Following are the scholarship awardees:

**Clarissa Chin**

Hometown: Daly City  
School: UC Berkeley  
Major: Civil Engineering

**Jennifer Carley**

Hometown: Lakeport  
School: UC Davis  
Major: Civil Engineering

**Tiffany Tatum**

Hometown: Fresno  
School: CSU Fresno  
Major: Land Surveying

***Congratulations and Best Wishes  
to Each of the Awardees!***

**Thank you** to the Scholarship Committee Chair, Scott McGolpin, Vice-Chair John Presleigh, and the rest of the Committee, Carl Bonomini, Mike Crump, John Linhardt and Don Ridenhour for your efforts in running another successful scholarship program.

# BOD Minutes



**CEAC Board of Directors Meeting**  
 Friday, September 9, 2011 \* 1:30pm  
 California State Association of Counties  
 1100 K Street, Peterson Conference Room, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor,  
 Sacramento, California 95814

1. **Call to Order** (Bueren) Meeting was called to order at 1:44 pm Friday, September 9, 2011

**Meeting Roster:**

<b>Officer</b>	<b>Office</b>	<b>County</b>
Julie Bueren	President	Contra Costa
Daniel Woldesenbet	President Elect	Alameda
Tom Mattson	Secretary	Humboldt
Mehdi Madjd-Sadjadi	Treasurer	Marin (Retired)
Doug Wilson	Parliamentarian	Tulare (Retired)
Ken Miller	Newsletter Editor	San Bernardino (Retired)
Patrick DeChellis	Past President/NACE Representative	Los Angeles
Dave Gravenkamp	Historian	Siskiyou County (Retired)
<b>Regional Directors</b>		
<b>Regional Directors</b>	<b>Region</b>	<b>County</b>
Steven Kowalewski	Central Coast	Contra Costa
Rick Tippet	Northern California	Trinity
Don Ridenhour	North Bay	Napa
Michael Penrose	Sacramento Mother Lode	Sacramento
Matt Machado	San Joaquin Valley	Stanislaus
Scott McGolpin	South Central Coast	Santa Barbara
Jeff Pratt	Southern California	Ventura
<b>Committee Chairs</b>		
<b>Committee Chairs</b>	<b>Committee</b>	<b>County</b>
Mike Penrose	Transportation	Sacramento
Pattie McNamee	Fellowship	Contra Costa
Chris Stone	Flood Control/Water Resources	
Wes Zicker	Land Use	Placer
Jim Porter	Oversight	San Mateo
Scott McGolpin	Scholarship	Santa Barbara
Susan Klassen	Solid Waste	Sonoma
Mike Emmons	Survey	Santa Barbara
<b>CSAC/CEAC Staff</b>		
<b>CSAC/CEAC Staff</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Agency/County</b>
DeAnn Baker	Senior Legislative Representative	CSAC
Karen Keene	Senior Legislative Representative	CSAC
Kiana Buss	Senior Legislative Analyst	CSAC
Cara Martinson	Senior Legislative Analyst	CSAC
Merrin Gerety	CEAC Program Manager	CSAC/CEAC
<b>Other Attendees</b>		
Don Wolfe	Director of Public Works	Los Angeles (Retired)

**All Officers, Regional Directors, Committee Chairs and Staff are listed. Those shown shaded were not in attendance.**

# BOD Minutes (Cont.)

CEAC Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
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## 2. **Approval of Minutes**

Upon motion by Daniel Woldesenbet and second by Pat DeChellis, minutes of the March 25 and June 24, 2011 Board of Directors meetings were unanimously approved.

## 3. **Correspondence** (Julie Bueren)

None.

## 4. **CLODS Report** (Mehdi Madjd-Sadjadi)

The CLODS had a meeting and discussed numerous items. The CLODS are against the current proposal to charge life members; it would create a two-tier system for those on the Board and all other CLODS. The life membership is just that, a life membership (i.e., no fee). The \$15 fee that NACE has for life members is actually a printing/newsletter fee that any NACE life member can opt out of. If there is to be a fee, all should pay equally. No necessity was shown, i.e., what are the actual proven numbers of those signing up for conferences but not attending?

The CLODS are available to help in any way needed for the upcoming conference in San Francisco and a historic traditional relic would be returning for the next CLODS BBQ.

Although the 2014 proposal to have NACE in California to celebrate CEAC's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary was not successful, CEAC should have some kind of celebration. It was suggested by Julie Bueren that this item be placed on the next BOD agenda so that a committee can be formed to plan for the 2014 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations that it should be for the entire year, not just one event. 2015 will be the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the CLODS, who were originated by Bill McIntosh.

The CLODS recommend that spouses/significant others be allowed to attend this years' CLODS BBQ at no charge. Pat DeChellis made a motion to allow this, seconded by Tom Mattson, and unanimously approved.

## 5. **NACE Report** (Pat DeChellis)

Pat attended the July 2011 NACo conference in Portland with Phil Demery and George Johnson. Pat observed that NACE representation at NACo, based on the last three Portland conferences, appears to be waning. The next NACE meeting will be April 1-5, 2012 in Lexington, Kentucky, in 2013 it will be in Des Moines, Iowa and in 2014 it will be in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

The Arizona chapter is sponsoring a conference from November 2-4, 2011 in Laughlin, Nevada. It was noted that this conference has a strong technical focus and has good reviews from prior CEAC attendees. It is also very low cost.

## 6. **CSAC Report** (DeAnn Baker)

Realignment is the hot topic and will continue to be so due to the impact to Counties. CSAC is examining the idea of a constitutional ballot measure in order to deal with this issue.

Pat DeChellis moved and Mike Penrose seconded to adopt the legislative priorities as recommended by all CEAC committees at this conference, with minor changes as described by DeAnn. They were unanimously approved.

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## 7. Regional Directors Reports

### **Northern California** (Rick Tippet)

Bedroll conference was at end of July. An overview of the program was described and it was noted that the attendance was full at 50 registered attendees. The next meeting of the Northern California section will be at the November CSAC conference.

### **Southern California** (Jeff Pratt)

Jeff reported that he chaired his first meeting of this section Thursday, September 8, 2011. Focus of discussion was on outreach committee and a schedule was set for future meetings.

### **Central Coast** (Steven Kowalewski)

They have not met since the last BOD meeting; however they have submitted a letter to CEAC requesting merger of the North Coast and Central Coast regions into one CEAC region.

### **South Central Coast** (Scott McGolpin)

No report.

### **North Bay** (Don Ridenhour)

No report. Julie Bueren noted that this would be the same as the Central Coast as the last meeting was a joint meeting.

### **Sacramento Mother Lode** (Mike Penrose)

They last met in May, 2011. Julie Bueren was able to attend, and due to their central location, had good attendance and representation from Caltrans and CEAC staff.

### **San Joaquin Valley** (Julie Bueren for Matt Machado)

This section meets monthly. The next meeting scheduled is September 23, 2011 in San Joaquin County and Julie will be attending.

## 8. Treasurers Report (Mehdi Madjd-Sadjadi)

Mehdi requested/reminded regional directors to immediately send him information on changes in Directors within regions.

Spring conference revenue was down from past conferences.

Del Norte County is the only County that has not paid their CEAC dues for this year. Rick Tippet will call them again to remind them.

Mehdi had questions on how he was to receive funding for Local Street and Roads report from cities, whether it would come directly from cities or through the League of Cities. It will be hard to track if sent directly from the cities, would be better for League of Cities to collect and compile who has paid and forward such payment to CEAC.

Mehdi asked if the \$10,000 allocated for the Road Report was going to be spent, as nothing has been charged against it. Julie Bueren reported that this should be deferred to the AB 720 working group as the issue was now at the forefront and this money most likely will be

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needed to get the necessary reporting changes made. Steve Kowalewski noted that as a member of the AB 720 committee, they are going to need assistance under this contract. The funding allocated for the flood control study was also questioned as it has been allocated for a long time and no movement has been made. Karen Keene noted the presentation given by the State at the flood control policy meeting and it sounds like this will move forward soon. Karen will look into and report back on status/need.

## 9. Committee Reports

### a) Flood Control and Water Resources – (Karen Keene)

Lots of discussion at the flood control policy committee regarding the Army Corp of Engineers, especially the levee vegetation management policy. The Next levee roundtable will be on September 16, 2011 with the Department of Water Resources.

### b) Solid Waste – (Karen Keene for Susan Klassen)

A legislative update was provided, a discussion was held on the implementation of mandatory commercial recycling and there was an excellent presentation from the Orange County County Counsels office regarding Proposition 26.

### c) Surveyor – (Wes Zicker for Mike Emmons)

The survey committee requested that the CEAC Board approve a letter regarding the actions of the FCC to allow a private company to use a broadband range adjacent to what is used for GPS. The concern is that this may adversely affect GPS readings, to the detriment of the entire GPS community. Pat DeChellis will check and see if NACE has taken a position on this issue and Karen Keene will look into if the letter should be coming from CSAC.

### d) Land Use—(Wes Zicker)

Brian Peters provided a liaison report from the Planning Directors committee. A discussion on the impacts/implementation of SB 375 is a standing item for discussion. A representative from San Joaquin County made a presentation on the permitting/traffic improvements for the mining industry within their jurisdiction. Substantial issues are arising with the implementation of Rule 20 projects by PG&E, with the implication that significant costs will be incurred by local agencies if they attempt to perform Rule 20 projects. NPDES proposed permitting standards were discussed.

### e) Transportation—(Mike Penrose)

AB 720 follow up discussions were held. Also of topic were PID's and LSR report funding. Rick Tippet brought up the issue of contract retention reduction and it's affect on Trinity County.

### f) Oversight and Special Tasks Committee – (Jim Porter)

A request was made for the BOD to discuss an outreach program committee. It was agreed that at this time no funding would be allocated, however Jeff Pratt, Norma Camacho and Jim would work on bringing something back to the Board.

## 10. Other Committee Reports

### a) Fellowship (Julie Bueren for Patricia McNamee)

Julie mentioned that she though the Fellowship Committee once again did a great job for this meeting. This was roundly agreed to by all.

# BOD Minutes (Cont.)

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**b) Scholarship** (Scott McGolpin)

Scott could not attend, but forwarded his recommendations for the annual scholarships. Based on the ranking table provided, a motion was made by Tom Mattson, seconded by Daniel Woldesenbet, and approved unanimously to accept the recommendations from Scott and award the scholarships. Scholarships in the amount of \$2,000 each will be awarded to Clarissa Jung Chin (Alameda), Jennifer Carley (Sacramento) and Tiffany Tatum (Fresno).

**c) Outside Committees** (HBP, CUCCAC, CCSFCC, SHSIP, TRCC, CTCDC, TDAWG, SR2S)  
Pat DeChellis reported from the HBP that at their last meeting Dennix Anbiah (Caltrans) covered lots of policy and funding issues. A presentation from the Northern California Super Region was made requesting that toll credits be made available for on-system bridge work. This was not approved as the on-system program is over-subscribed and using toll credits would reduce the overall program size.

The seat on the HBP for the alternative representative for Southern California is open and a solicitation to fill this position is being circulated.

Julie Bueren reported that there were also openings on the CTDC and the CCSFCC that Merrin Gerety was soliciting for applicants to fill.

**11. Life Membership**

**a)** A general discussion of possible candidates was made. Mehdi Madjd-Sadjadi made a motion to issue life membership to Farhad Mansourian due to his long time commitment to CEAC. This was seconded by Tom Mattson and approved unanimously.

**12. Unfinished Business**

**a) LSR Statewide Needs Assessment dues assessment** (Pat DeChellis)

A general discussion on the method of collecting funds for the next phase of this project, including who would pay and what amount, occurred. Mike Penrose made a motion to send a letter to all counties regarding the new assessment, and then bring back to the Board for a vote on instituting the assessment. This was seconded by Jim Porter and unanimously approved by all.

**b) Life Membership** (Pat DeChellis)

Pat discussed reasoning for looking into the proposals to charge for annual membership and conference fees. Julie Bueren discussed the responses she had received, ranging from opposition, to neutrality, to support. Don Wolfe, Los Angeles County Retired, mentioned that he was neutral, but that those that represent a company after retirement should pay the full fees.

Pat motioned that he review the comments and come back to the Board for a vote, this was seconded by Daniel Woldesenbet and unanimously approved.

**c) Guest Program** (Ken Miller)

No report was provided, however it was noted that the guest program at this years CSAC conference will be extremely limited.

**13. New Business**

No items for discussion or consideration.

# BOD Minutes (Cont.)

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## 14. Scheduled Conferences

- a) CSAC 117th Annual Meeting, Nov 29-Dec 2, 2011, San Francisco (Hilton)
- b) NACo Legislative Conference, Washington D.C., March 3-7, 2012
- c) CEAC Spring Conference/PWOI & Mini Expo, March 20-22 2012, San Jose Fairmont
- d) NACE Annual Conference, Lexington, Kentucky, April 1-5, 2012

## 15. CEAC Board of Directors Meeting Schedule

- a) Friday, December 2, 2011, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. (Annual Meeting in San Francisco)
- b) March 22, 2012, time TBD, (Spring Conference, San Jose)
- c) Other dates tbd

Meeting Adjourned at 3:40 pm

Minutes Prepared by Tom Mattson, CEAC Secretary



CEAC Scholarship Check of \$2,000 being awarded to Jennifer Carley in Yolo County by Panos Kokkas, Assistant Director of Public Works & County Engineer (L) and John Bencomo, Director of Planning & Public Works (R)

# Droppings



By

**Dave Gravenkamp**  
CEAC Historian

## **“All About Condors - Revisited”**

You may recall reading in the September 2011 issue of our Newsletter the story about the death of three condors. In the Spring 1997 Newsletter I told you “All About Condors.” The following is a repeat of the Droppings from that previous Newsletter.

Have you ever wondered about the CLODS, specifically, how and why the Condor was selected as their symbol? As you know the CLODS was the brainchild of Ed Hanna and Bill McIntosh, so it was altogether fitting and proper that they pick the symbol. Ed favored the seagull, and threw in other possibilities including the Stud Turtles and the Pelican. Bill had, however, already selected the Condor as the official symbol of the CLODS.

Not to be outdone by Bill, Ed took up the challenge as to why the Condor was the appropriate symbol for the organization. The following is a letter of justification written by Ed to the then Newsletter Editor, Bob Glenn, which appeared in the January 1997 issue.

“Bob Glenn, Editor  
Engineers Association Sometimes Newsletter

Dear Bob,  
Perhaps it is time to tell some of the history of the California Condor so that people may draw their own conclusions as to why the Condor is the symbol of the CLODS.

This noble bird lives down in Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties where it nests and

rears the young, but for some reason unknown to ornithologists they come to San Benito County to breed. These birds breed during the first warm days of April and the mating act is accompanied by a strange ritualistic dance which I will attempt to describe, but it has to be seen to be believed.

First, I should state that this bird has a wing spread of from 11 to 13 feet when fully grown and is so large and cumbersome that it cannot take off except with a long run in the open flat ground or else by running down a hillside. As a consequence, the carrion on which it feeds must be accessible to the bird in an area where it can take off. The Condor will starve before it will go into the bottom of a gully for a dead carcass. In the old days, when no one bothered burying anything and left bodies lying around all over the place, food was not a problem. Now, however, if a cow dies it is off to the tallow works before it stops kicking. Even Old Road Commissioners are being buried. There is a shortage of food for the Condor, and what little there is probably died from poison. This noble bird is literally being starved out of existence.

Another reason for dying out is the disgusting breeding habits of the bird. No one can tell the male from the female...even the condors themselves have trouble except at extremely close range. Furthermore the bird has a horrible odor problem. He stinks, and particularly so during the first

## Droppings (continued)

warm days of Spring, which happens to coincide with his mating season. It takes about 55 days to incubate the egg and another 5 months before the bay Condor can even leave the nest. During this time it is fed regurgitated food from its mother (How would you like regurgitated ground squirrel, probably poisoned to boot?). For another 6 or 7 months the parents of the fledgling must seek out and direct the little monster to its food before it is capable of going off on its own.

Since Condors breed but once every two years and lay only one egg, you can see that the survival problem is terrific. Each year in April a couple of dozen of these birds show up in San Bento County and after a couple of warm days start getting ideas. (Sound familiar?) Two of these birds will start taring at each other from opposite ends of a long ridge and then start the dance. They hop around and move back and forth, swinging and swaying and from time to time they move a little closer to each other. This goes on all day ong, until they finally get close enough to start getting friendly.

Finally, late in the afternoon, they are really getting into range of each other. (I might add that this prolonged gyration on the ridge is not a mating dance at all, as ornithologists think, but a result of the odor problem. Both birds are merely trying to stay downwind from each other). At last they are close enough to begin getting down to business and cutting out all the horse play. Now imagine, if you can, the chagrin of the Bull Condor, when he finally dives in for the coup de grace and discovers to his horror.....another Bull Condor. By now the mating season is over, and it is too late. The Bull Condor must wait another two years and hope for better luck next time. (Do you begin to get any ideas about why the Condor was selected for the symbol of the CLODS?)

Recognizing that this noble bid was doomed to extinction in spite of what the do-gooders and preservationists could dream up, the Wild Ass Mining Company (proprietors of the favorite breeding grounds of the Condor) proposed a simple and unique way of saving the Condor. This was in 1964 and the Government still hasn't taken advantage of our proposal to import a few South American Condors.

The South American Condor is slightly smaller than the California counterpart, only a 9 foot wing spread, but he breeds like mad. Those hot-blooded Latin Condors don't give a damn about the smell and they don't go for this every two years' stuff. Importing a few of these to our area would certainly stimulate a population explosion among the California Condors."

Yours truly, etc.  
(Signed) Ed Hanna

So now you know the "how and why" of the Condor.



In the September Newsletter, the BBQ photos were not from a prior CLODS BBQs, but were from the following locations;



Top: Ireland

Middle: Torremolinos, Spain. Cooks are making a very large dish of paella...approx. 4 ft. in diameter.



Bottom: A market in Tangier, Morocco

## Buffalo Bull Award 2012



## AWARD

(A By-Product of Grass Roots Government)

Awarded Annually by the CLODS for the Most Inexplicable  
And Incomprehensible Contribution to  
County Engineering in California

You still have an opportunity submit your nomination  
for the annual Buffalo Bull Award.

Send to the Newsletter Editor by January 30, 2012.

*While the 2012 Buffalo Bull Award will not be made until the Spring Conference's President's Banquet, it is not too early to make your nominations known to the Tres Pinos Committee. An early nomination will allow the TP Committee ample time to wade through the many nominations for those shameful and inexplicable acts of our membership that are annually submitted for consideration. As you prepare your nominations.....remember.....embellishments are always beneficial and acceptable.*

## Miscellaneous Treasures

**Clay Castleberry**, Esteemed CLOD, CEAC President 1976 (Butte Co.), “Albatross”, AKA “Circuit Rider”, and whatever else, submitted a the puzzle in the photo below for your enjoyment and head scratching in the September Newsletter.



**Clay** has advised that the device is a lead spline weight that is used by draftsmen (when they actually used pens, pencils and paper) to hold a flexible curve in place while drawing or tracing a curved line. See photo below.



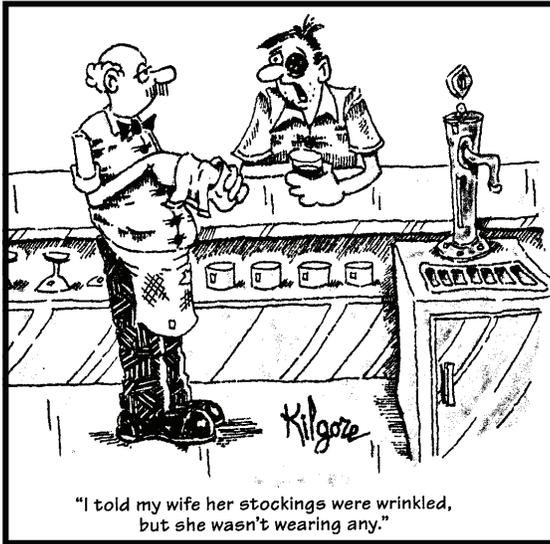
The following response to Clay’s question was received from one of our esteemed retired members and a CLOD.

*“As it was from Clay, my first thought was that it was a slide rule.....however, it didn’t look like any slide rule I’ve ever seen.*

*Labeled an “engineering device” I concluded it was a donut maker. If the device is turned over, donut batter can be poured into the bottom and the opening closed. Then you grasp the long handle and turn the device over and place directly over hot oil. Then by pulling the small trigger on the side of the device, a perfectly shape donut will drop into the hot oil and begin cooking.”*

The un-named CLOD has since submitted an application to the U.S. Patent Office for the alternate use of the drafting spline as a donut maker.....and is currently in negotiations with a national chain of donut houses for its future use. If the patent proves out, he will be able to add this to his successful Mexican shrimp boat venture.

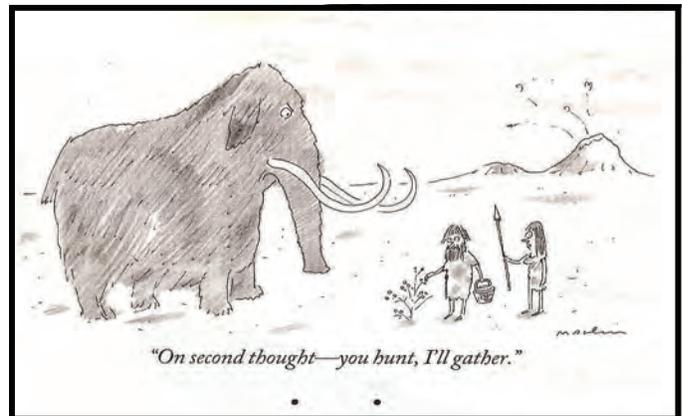
# “Jest a Minute”



**Britain's Prime Minister, Winston Churchill** once found himself in a heated debate with a female member of the Parliament, the story goes.

The lady ultimately became so irate with Churchill that she declared, "If you were my husband, I would poison your tea!

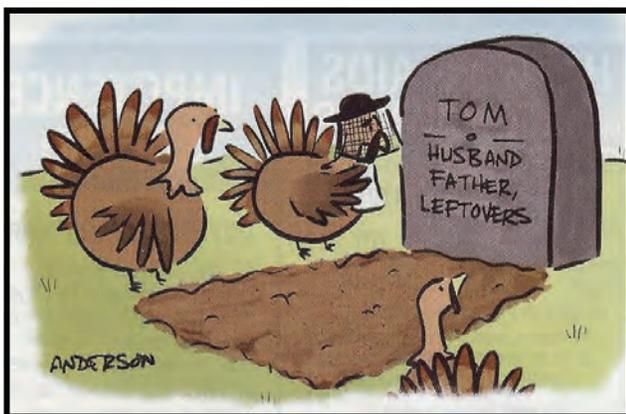
Churchill replied, "Madam, if you were my wife, I gladly would drink it."

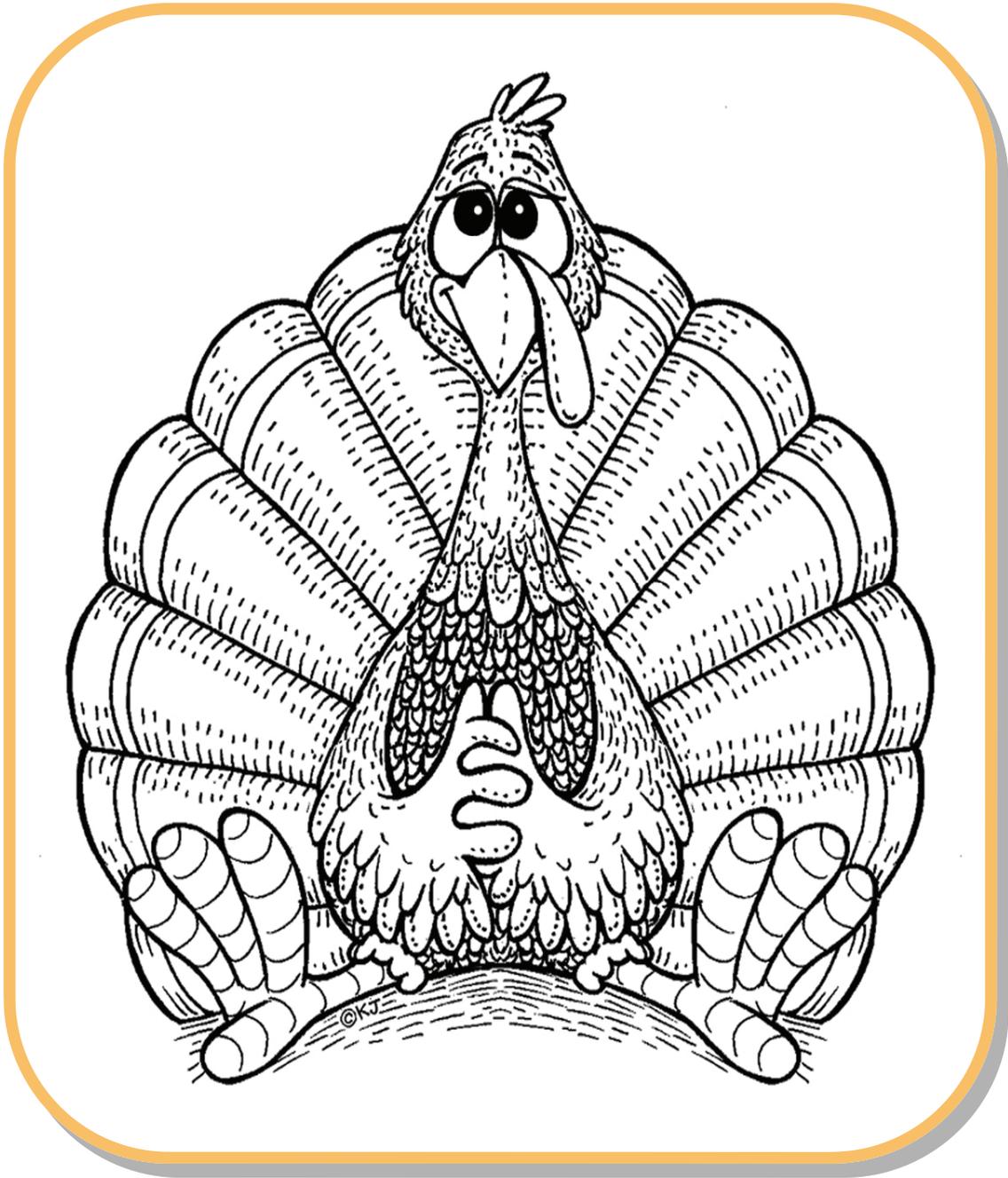


**The patient** in Room 402 was scheduled to be discharged from the hospital. The student nurse entered the room with a wheelchair and exchanged greetings with the gentleman she found there. The man was dressed and holding a suitcase. Noting the wheelchair, he assured her that no assistance would be needed.

The student nurse explained to him that it was a matter of hospital regulations, and she firmly helped him into the wheelchair, and rolled him to the elevator .

On the way down, she asked him if his wife was meeting him. "I don't know," he said, "She's still upstairs getting out of her hospital gown."





**Happy Thanksgiving**